

Thunder Bay, Ontario



Volume 83

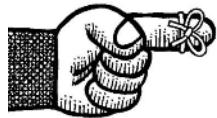
February 2017

Issue 2

## FYBO 2017 another resounding success!

If it's after the first weekend in February it can only mean one thing. Wiarton Willy has looked for his shadow and has told us how much winter we've got left here in NW Ontario. But if you really want to know how the winter is shaping up you should have been at VE3SAO at the 55+ Centre on River Street last Saturday. It was our weekend to participate in the Freeze Your Buns Off (FYBO) contest. The premise is to operate outdoors and the multiplier is based on the temperatures. The colder the more points you get. Last weekend we got a huge multiplier. Still not sure if that's a good thing however?

It's always fun to see what and how operators set up



### Next Meeting

February 9<sup>th</sup>

Confederation College  
McIntyre Building  
Room 214  
1930 hrs

their portable stations. Some go for elaborate antennas, others go with simple easy ups and some stay inside and watch the rest of us do FYBO.

This year three of us operated from snow banks, Mike, VE3EDX used his tried and true pop up vertical for some good results, Doug, VE3EFC used a pair of coffee mugs to resonate on 20 M and I used a new small magnetic loop to excite the either.

The peanut gallery turnout was very good this year as well with VA3/VE3's Phil, AXL, Keith, KSP, Brad, MXJ, Fort, MCZ, Gerry, KRN and Bob, RVA who had the most important job of all. He brought food.

We send special thanks to Bob's, VE3RVA daughter Trish who has supplied us with some QRO chilli to enjoy for lunch. After being outside for a good time the chilli was a very much appreciated. Thanks to all the other folks who also contributed to the meal with food for us to share. No one went home hungry. Even the weekend staff at 55+ was treated to a bowl of chilli and agreed FYBO was their favourite event as well!

Everyone who operated outside made at least three contacts, so from an operations standpoint the day was a success. One memorable contact was between 'XT and 'EDX who was on the other side of the parking lot. Now you're thinking no big deal it's a 100 metres across the yard. Wrong, we did it long path right around the world ;-)

Warming up my long johns and preparing for next year, respectively submitted by.

Bill 'XT



Bob VE3RVA keeping the troops warm and fed



Like us on  
Facebook

**LARC SENATE**

Robert Hansen VE3RVA  
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS  
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD  
Terry Stewardson VA3LU  
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

**LARC EXECUTIVE**

**President**  
**Randy Gottfred VA3OJ**

**Vice President**  
**Robert Hansen VE3RVA**

**Treasurer**  
**BillUnger VE3XT**

**Secretary**  
**Karl Hamilton VE3RRP**

**Board Members**  
**Mike Skillen VE3EDX**  
**Andy Malcom VE3INI**  
**Terry Stewardson VA3LU**  
**Mark Vaillant VA3MVR**  
**Axel Rehfuhs VE3OPF**

**LARC Emergency Coordinator**

**Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628**

**ARES District Emergency Coordinator**

**vacant**

**CANWARN**

**VA3JMS John 767-3631**  
**VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628**

**Public Service Events**

**VA3JMS John 767-3631**

**Accredited Examiners**

**VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789**  
**flesnick@tbaytel.net**  
**VE3VAI Lori Bedford 622 – 6386**  
**ve3vai@tbaytel.net**

**ABOUT US**

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 214 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to [hiqnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:hiqnewsletter@gmail.com)

**Nets in the Thunder Bay Area**

**Sunday** AMETHYST ARES VHF NET, on VE3TBR 146.820- pl 107.2 IRLP Ref. # 9031 @ 0045Z (7:45 pm), also Cook County ARES Response Team ( CARRT) net at 0100Z (8 pm) on the BWARC repeater, Grand Portage repeater - 146.655 with CTCSS 151.4

**Monday** SATERN NET on VE3TBR 146.820- pl 107.2 IRLP Ref. # 9032

SATERN DIGITAL NETS on **Monday & Wednesday** nights

8 pm- 14.065

9 pm- 7.065

10 pm- 3.5835

Mode :Olivia 8/500 1000Hz waterfall centre

**Every Day** The NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO ARES NET , every evening at 8:15PM (local) on 80m 3.750Mhz (note the time does not change with daylight savings time.)

Last Monday of every Month - ARES net on VE3YQT - 7 pm

Any questions on these or other nets please feel free to contact me at my e-mail: [ve3mxj@rac.ca](mailto:ve3mxj@rac.ca)

**LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS**

**VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch**

**VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2**

**442.075 (+5 MHz)pl 100**

**144.390 APRS**

**VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)**

## MORE PICS FROM FYBO 2017



**What's Happening at LARC Meetings?**

by Bill VE3XT

At the January meeting of the LARC we did not have a scheduled guest speaker and hoped that some of the members would show up for an impromptu show and tell. Turns out we did have a few show and tells. Doug, VE3EFC showed how he was replacing the defective fan on his power supply. Several folks commented on how amazing it is possible to get 13.6 V at up to 30 A from such a small box. Karl, VE3RRP also gave an interesting demo on LED strings and how he was going to use them to help his garden seeds get a head start without going bankrupt from hydro costs. After the meeting Phil, VE3AXL demoed his portable operating table for the KX1. Through an ingenious roll up scheme it reduced to a very small package.

For the February meeting yours truly will give a short talk on how they operate and a demo with some home-made Magnetic Loops I've been playing with. Hope that you can make the meeting this Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM in the Mac building at Confederation College.

We are always looking for speakers so if you're puttering with something, have a new toy or a better way to do something let one of the executive know and we will slot you in. There's lots of time before next June, 2017. The Executive has made a concerted effort this year to make the meetings interesting and with a variety of topics. We hope you can come out and support your fellow LARC'ers and guests.

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**On Line Courses in Emergency Communications**

submitted by Brad Harris VE3MXJ

<http://www.arrl.org/online-course-catalog#>

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Note that these are not free courses.

Leo's VE3ATC APRS tracker

<http://aprs.fi/#!call=a%2FAC9Q-9&timerange=86400&tail=43200>

**Winter Field Day Jan 28-29 2017**

by Fred Lesnick VE3FAL

Exchange: VE3FAL -10(1 station, outdoors), ONN (Ontario North)

Saturday morning packed the truck with gear and sleigh to pull into my shelter location South of Thunder Bay. This location serves as not only the area I like to hunt, hike and bike, but also my training grounds for Winter Survival as well as a training grounds for the 1<sup>st</sup> Thunder Scout Explorer Group that I am proud to be part of. I parked the truck and pulled the sleigh in 2 kms to the location. Opened up the tent and got the fire going straight away inside as well as outside. Morning temperature was nice and the hike was peaceful as well. Scouter James and part of the troop showed up just after 10am where we practiced building and setting primitive traps up as well as relax and enjoy the day. I prepped a spot for my KX2 in the tent and later put the Packtenna EF up in the tree's with the help of Scouter James. We were ready to roll for the 1900z start of WFD. I opted to operate 40 meters QRP CW only as it was the only band that showed any real activity; the higher bands were very spotty.

Scouter James and I spent the entire night out at the tent while I played off and on in the test. I was able to make 10 completed qso's (exchanges) and actually beat my score from last year. For me it's not hardcore, I am just out to play and hone skills both with radio and survival. I made a short video of the day dedicated to WFD and it can be seen on my YouTube Channel:

<https://youtu.be/YIkrRFd3pq0>

<https://www.winterfieldday.com/>



# Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

## January 2017 Treasurers Report

<b>Balance January 1, 2017</b>	<b><u>\$960.85</u></b>
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### Income

<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$0.00</u></b>
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### Expenses

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$0.00</u></b>
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<b>Balance January 31, 2017</b>	<b><u>\$960.85</u></b>
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<u>Trailer Account</u>		
	<b>Previous Balance</b>	<b>\$138.73</b>
<b>Income</b>		
January 31, Interest		\$0.01
Total		<b>\$138.74</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Total Expenses:		\$0.00
	<b>Balance in Trailer Account</b>	<b>\$138.74</b>

### Term Account

<b>January 01 2016 Balance</b>	<b>\$2,056.65</b>
January 18, Interest	\$0.25

<b>January 31, 2017 Balance</b>	<b>\$2,056.90</b>
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**Bill Unger CG3XT**  
**Treasurer**

## **Minutes for the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club**

**Date: January 12, 2017**

**President, Randy Gottfred VA3OJ Presiding.**

### **Guest Speaker:**

Small show and tells... Doug McCormack VE3EFC talked about replacing a fan in the popular power supply Alinco DM-330MV. Karl Hamilton VE3RRP talked about the advantages of using RGB LED 5050 waterproof programmable strips to light plant starter grow boxes.

### **Treasurer's Report: Bill Unger VE3XT**

Bill Unger VE3XT moved to accept the report as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by Brad Harris VE3MXJ. Passed Unanimously.

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP moved to accept the previous meeting's minutes as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by Brad Harris E3MXJ. Passed.

### **Old Business:**

**Public Service (John Sacek VA3JMS public events coordinator)**

#### **Past Events:**

#### **Upcoming Events**

Sleeping Giant Loppet, Saturday March 4, Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

#### **CANWARN John Sacek VA3JMS**

no news

#### **ARES Brad Harris VE3MXJ Thunder Bay EC**

Monthly Net on the last Monday of the month 7 pm on VE3YQT.

#### **Repeater News**

**Randy Gottfred VA3OJ,**

**Terry Stewardson VA3LU**

in the works when the wx arms up: TBR battery swap, TBR mesh ant.

### **Club Trailer:**

**Bob Hansen VE3RVA**

No change.

### **YouTube Channel**

**Cory Vickruck VE3ZCV**

video added with more on the way.

**April 13th Dinner Meeting 6 PM**

### **Guest speaker TBA**

### **New Business**

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ talked about Bear grease Sled Dog race in MN at the end of January.

RAC Bulletin Highlights by VE3RRP

**50/50 Draw:** Mike Skillen VE3EDX

**Adjournment** moved by: Karl Hamilton VE3RRP

**Next Executive Meeting: February 2, 2017, 7:30 PM, RM 213**

**Next LARC Meeting: February 9, 2017, 7:30 PM, RM 214**

And from the Internet...

courtesy of Jan VA3JRS

<http://www.popularmechanics.com/space/solar-system/a25007/changes-solar-activity-threaten-electronics/>

<http://www.eham.net/ehamforum/smf/index.php/topic,113251.0.html>

<http://www.mississauga.com/community-story/7093226-mississauga-radio-amateurs-lead-in-commemorating-vimy-centennial/>

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/army-veteran-stranded-beach-broken-9617728>

# February 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Asia Pacific Spring Sprint, CW	12 New Hamp- shire QSO Party
13	14 	15 Phone Fray	16	17	18 ARRL Interna- tional DX Contest, CW	19
20	21	22 CWops Mini CWT Test	23	24	25	26 SARL Digital Contest
27 Local ARES Net on VE3YQT	28					